



*Sen. Bob Morton*

## Ongoing legislative priorities

Throughout his tenure in the state Legislature, Sen. Bob Morton, R-Orient, has championed many important issues facing Washington state and residents of the 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. These issues include:

### STATE BUDGET:

With a firm belief that *government spending has spiraled out of control* and the *tax burden on Washington residents is far too excessive*, Sen. Morton continues to push for *state spending within its means* by employing a *strict priority list for essential government services*. He has also supported the concept of *government spending limits* and a “*rainy day*” *fund* as established in Initiative 601 and eventually repealed in several stages by majority Democrats.

### WATER RIGHTS:

Understanding its importance to the livelihood of thousands of Washington’s agricultural families has continually inspired Sen. Morton to *protect private water rights*.

### PUBLIC LANDS:

The *increasing government ownership of land* throughout many parts of Washington, especially within Morton’s 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, has *usurped taxable lands* and begun to *jeopardize local government’s ability to adequately sustain essential government services* like public safety. Morton has been outspoken about the devastating impact that has had on his district and other rural areas throughout the state.

### WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT:

In many cases, Morton believes that *government has overstepped its bounds in the protection of wildlife*, disproportionately impacting rural Washington. From the spotted owl to the grizzly bear and salmon restoration, protection of wildlife has been an all-or-nothing venture by big government, devastating anything in its path, including the timber industry and ranching, to name a few. Sen. Morton has

consistently *represented the little guy against big government* in cases where *unfunded mandates were placed on private landowners and private property rights have been trampled*.

## **RURAL WASHINGTON:**

Sen. Morton's *dedication and persistent advocacy for the preservation of the rural way of life* is undying. In a state capital overwhelmingly comprised of urban legislators, Morton is proud to be the voice for his rural people.

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